

I claim:

1. A prosthetic elbow comprising:  
a humeral component;  
an ulnar component adapted to pivotably engage said humeral component; and  
5 an adaptor having a first end pivotably connected to said ulnar component and a  
second end pivotably connected to said humeral component.
2. The prosthetic elbow of claim 1 wherein said humeral component comprises a  
pair of arms spaced apart by a first distance having axially aligned bores and said ulnar  
10 component comprises an end having a bore.
3. The prosthetic elbow of claim 2 wherein said adaptor first end has a width less  
than said first distance and a bore.
- 15 4. The prosthetic elbow of claim 3 wherein said adaptor second end comprises a  
pair of arms spaced apart by a second distance.
5. The prosthetic elbow of claim 4 wherein said second distance is equal to said  
first distance.
- 20 6. The prosthetic elbow of claim 5 including at least one pin for connecting said  
humeral component arms to either said ulnar component bore or said adaptor first end  
bore.

7. A kit assembleable in a first configuration to form a single-axis prosthetic joint or in a second configuration to form a double-axis prosthetic joint comprising:

5 a first component having a proximal end insertable into a first bone and a distal end;

a second component having a distal end insertable into a second bone and a proximal end; and

an adaptor connectable between said first component and said second component;

10 whereby said kit is assembled by connecting said first component directly to said second component to form a single-axis joint or by connecting said adaptor between said first component and said second component to form a double-axis joint.

8. The kit of claim 7 wherein said first component distal end comprises a first arm and a second arm spaced apart by a first distance.

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9. The kit of claim 8 wherein said second component proximal end has a width less than said first distance and a bore.

10. The kit of claim 9 wherein said adaptor includes a first end having a width less than said first distance and a second end comprising first and second arms spaced apart by said first distance.

11. The kit of claim 8 including a U-shaped spacer mounted between said first

component first arm and said first component second arm and having first and second legs having inner and outer sides, wherein the distance between said outer sides is approximately equal to said first distance and wherein the spacing between said inner sides is approximately equal to the width of said second component proximal end.

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12. The kit of claim 8 including a U-shaped spacer mounted between said adaptor first arm and said adaptor second arm and having first and second legs having inner and outer sides, wherein the distance between said outer sides is approximately equal to said first distance and wherein the spacing between said inner sides is approximately equal to the width of said adaptor first end.

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13. The kit of claim 7 including a pin connecting said first component proximal end to said adaptor first end.

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14. The kit of claim 7 including a pin connecting said second component proximal end to said adaptor second end.

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15. A method of assembling a prosthetic joint comprising the steps of:  
providing a first joint component having a first end adapted to be inserted into the interior of a first bone and a second end;  
providing a second joint component having a first end adapted to be inserted into the interior of a second bone and a second end;  
providing a first connector for forming a single-axis pivotal connection between

said first component and said second component;

providing a second connector for forming a double-axis pivotal connection

between said first component and said second component;

selecting one of said first and second connectors; and

5 connecting said first component to said second component using the selected one of said first and second connectors.

16. A double-axis prosthetic joint comprising

a first component having a proximal end adapted to be mounted in a first bone

10 and a distal end comprising a pair of spaced apart arms;

a second component having a distal end adapted to be mounted in a second bone and a proximal end including a bore;

a connector for pivotably connecting said first component to said second component comprising a first end having a bore pivotably mounted between said first

15 component spaced apart arms and a second end comprising a pair of spaced apart arms, said second component distal end being pivotably mounted between said connector second end spaced apart arms.

17. A prosthetic joint kit comprising:

20 a first component having a first end and a second end comprising a pair of spaced apart arms:

a second component having a first end and a second end comprising a bore;

a first connector for pivotably connecting said first component directly to said

second component; and

a second connector for pivotably connecting said first component indirectly to said second component.

5           18. A method of converting a single-axis prosthetic joint to a double-axis prosthetic joint comprising the steps of:

          providing a first joint element having a first end insertable into a bone and second end having a first shape;

          providing a second joint element having a first end insertable into a bone and a  
10       second end having a second shape complementary to said first shape, said second end being pivotably connectable to said first joint second end to form a single-axis prosthetic joint;

          providing a connector having a first end having a shape complementary to said first shape and a second end complementary to said second shape;

15       pivotaly attaching said first joint element second end to said connector first end;  
and

          pivotaly attaching said second joint element second end to said connector second end to form a double-axis prosthetic joint.